AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An illumination device which comprises a plurality of light [[source]] sources having different emission wave lengths and a light guide member having an entrance surface for receiving light coming from the plurality of light [[source]] sources, an exit surface for outputting light in an illumination direction, and a first diffusion region for reflecting and/or diffusing an incoming light beam across a longitudinal direction, comprising:

a second diffusion region inserted in an optical path of light between the plurality of light [[source]] sources and the entrance surface, the light being emitted by the plurality of light [[source]] sources

wherein said second diffusion region is common to light beams coming from the plurality of light sources, and

wherein the plurality of light sources are shifted from a plane, which is normal to a surface of the first diffusion region and pass through a center of the first diffusion region in a width direction, in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein said second diffusion region comprises a light diffusion surface formed on the entrance surface.

4. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein said second diffusion region comprises a three-dimensionally patterned surface formed on the entrance surface.

5. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein said second diffusion region comprises a three-dimensionally patterned surface formed on a surface of a resin which covers the light source.

6. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein said second diffusion region comprises a scattering agent contained in a resin that covers the light source.

7. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the plurality of light sources are integrally packaged.

8. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the plurality of light sources [[comprises]] comprise LEDs.

Claim 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein the plurality of LEDs respectfully have red, green, and blue emission wavelengths.

11. (Original) An image sensor comprising an illumination device cited in claim 1, a lens for imaging optical information at a read position, and a photoelectric conversion element for receiving an optical image formed by said lens, and converting the optical image into an electrical signal.

12. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus comprising an image sensor cited in claim 11, and driving device adapted to change a relative position of the image sensor along a scanning direction during scanning of the object to be read.

13. (Original) An information processing system comprising an image reading apparatus cited in claim 12, and an external information processing apparatus for controlling said image reading apparatus.